

Reply To Examiner's Remarks

Claims 4, 9-12, as amended, and new claim 49 are presented for consideration.

The Examiner rejects claims 4, 9-12 and 48 under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as indefinite, asserting that several elements recited in claim 48 are not supported by the specification. Claim 48 is canceled herein and replaced by new independent claim 49, which relies upon Figures 2 and 5 and upon the specification at page 6, line 6, through page 7, line 23.

The system recited in new claim 49 is discussed in detail in the specification, pages 6-7. With reference to first layer, adjacent to or integrated with an upper part of the substrate and illustrated in Figure 1S, the ratio $[\text{TaSi}_2]/[\text{MoSi}_2]$ present is $n_1/(1-n_1)$, with n_1 in a range 20 – 80 percent.. The ratio $[\text{TaSi}_2]/[\text{MoSi}_2]$ present in the second layer is $n_2/(1-n_2)$, with n_2 lying in a range $n_1 \leq n_2 \leq 80$ percent. However, each of the first layer and the second layer also contains borosilicate glass, present in absolute amounts of 40-80 percent in the first layer and 5-95 percent in the second layer, and possibly one or more other substances as well. This is supported, in part, by the discussion in the specification at page 6, line 6, through page 7, line 23.

The Applicants and the Applicants' representative apologize for the errors incorporated in former claim 48 and thank the Examiner for the proposed new claim, set forth in the Office Action mailed 20 August 2010. The format of this proposed claim is maintained in new claim 49, although the numerical quantities are changed to correspond to the specification discussion at page 6, line 6, through page 7, line 23.

The Applicants believe that new claim 49, and claims 4 and 9-12 dependent thereon, are consistent with the specification and are in proper form for allowance.

The Applicants request that the Examiner pass the application, including claim 4 and 9-12, as amended, and new claim 49, to issue as a U.S. patent.

Respectfully Submitted,

/john schipper/

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